IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT APPLICATION EXAMINING OPERATIONS

Applicants

B. Scott Fabre

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.

Examiner:

Filed

Concurrently herewith

Title

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING FIRST COPY OUT

TIMES USING UNIQUENESS IDENTIFIERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Miller Nash LLP 3500 U. S. Bancorp Tower 111 SW Fifth Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204 February 29, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 1, line 26, please add the following paragraph:

OK TO CONCER!

--The preferred method for reducing first copy out times of printed matter includes the step of executing a request to print a portion of the printed matter. Next, a uniqueness identifier specifically associated with the portion of the printed matter is generated.

Then the uniqueness identifier is compared to a list of uniqueness identifiers stored in memory.

Preferably the portion of the printed matter is then printed using data stored in a memory location referenced by the list of uniqueness identifiers if the uniqueness identifier is found in the list of uniqueness identifiers. On the other hand, the method includes the step of storing the uniqueness

identifier and a reference to data stored in memory pertaining to the portion of the printed matter

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